

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

[0029] Referring back to FIG. 1, the motor 22 is housed in and affixed to one end of a cylinder 50 which is closed by a cover 28. The other end of the cylinder 50 contains a hub 51 which can slide out of the cylinder a limited amount. The hub defines a hole through its center that has stepped diameters 52, 53, 54 and 55. The seal 25 is seated in diameter 53 and is held in place by a retaining ring 56 seated in diameter 52. The flexible-tube 20 is bonded to the hub 51 inside diameter 55. An evacuation port 60 intersects with and connects to the stepped hole. A short rigid tube 61 passes through an "L"-shaped slot 57, defined in the cylinder 50, and is affixed in the port 60. One leg of the "L"-shaped slot permits a limited telescoping movement of the hub 51 (e.g., movement of about a quarter of an inch), together with the flexible-tube 20, relative to the cylinder 50 which in turn causes the open distal end 15 to move relative to the offset-agitator 40 since the offset-agitator 40 is connected through the conveyor-shaft 30 to the motor and thereby to the cylinder 50. This telescoping movement (as the apparatus is adjusted from the position shown in FIG. 2. to the position shown in FIG. 3) causes the effective diameter of the distal-agitator to decrease and it can be used to assist in inserting the apparatus through an introducer-sheath 64, equipped with a seal 67, into the vessel (with the distal-agitator preferably pulled into the flexible tube as shown in FIG. 3) and in navigating the apparatus through obstructed areas and bifurcations in the vessel and through other such areas that require steering the distal end of the apparatus.